



www.moaa.org
www.msvc-moaa.org

Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



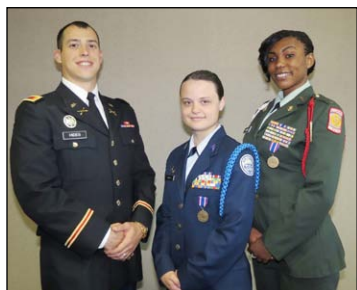
June 2015 • Volume 5 Issue 6

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown • MSVC-MOAA
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540 • Vienna, OH 44473-5980

What an Honor to Host Junior Cadets, a New Officer, Their Families and Instructors in May

By LTC Mike Wisniewski

The monthly membership dinner meeting at the Consolidated Activity Center at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station on May 28th proved to be an overwhelming success as our



Chapter honored three young Cadets and a newly commissioned Second Lieutenant. With our largest dinner gathering to date, 53 members and guests enjoyed a scrumptious meal of London broil, stuffed chicken breasts, twice baked potato, and mixed vegetables following an inspirational invocation by our Chaplain, Lt.Col Ralph Minton.

President Rod Hosler acted as the Master of Ceremony in the absence of our guest speaker, CPT Stephanie Crawford, USA, a Military Science Professor at YSU who was called away for a family medical emergency.

LTC Hosler is very knowledgeable of both the JROTC program at the high school level and the ROTC program at the college level having served as the Senior Army Instructor at Rayen High School for two years and as the Assistant Professor of Military Science at Youngstown State University for five years. The high-water mark for ROTC programs throughout the nation occurred in 1986 when over 400 ROTC programs were flourishing on our nation's colleges and universities. Though greatly diminished, there are still about 35,000 cadets training to receive their gold bars. Almost 40% are women. Hosler noted that the ROTC program at YSU was started in 1952 and that our Chapter membership has quite a few YSU Alumni. ROTC cadets have the opportunity to attend a 4-week Active Duty training tour at any number of CONUS and overseas bases throughout the world. Cadets can also choose to be enrolled in the SMP (Simultaneous Membership Program) and attend monthly drills with a Reserve unit.

Before the introduction of our guest Cadets, Janet Oglesby was presented with an Achievement Certificate from MOAA National for having the best newsletter of all Category V Chapters (fewer than 120 Members) in the nation. In the eyes of a panel of judges, the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter (editor – Janet Oglesby) won the Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for several reasons: it covers chapter members' contributions in the community, it provides



an easy-to-use form to join the chapter or renew membership, it uses a good mix of copy, images, and white space, which creates an appealing, easy to read layout, and it is a monthly publication that is appealing to many different member demographics. Likewise, COL John Koshan, USAR, (Ret) won the Category V Harris Communications Award for best legislative coverage in print newsletters and also receive a framed certificate from MOAA National.

MSG Douglas Moon, Senior Army Instructor, introduced Cadet 2LT Marvinia Fulks, a sophomore at East High School who is one of the outstanding JROTC Cadet leaders of her class. MSG Moon explained that the Junior ROTC Program moved from Rayen High School to East High School.

John Miller introduced Cadet Autumn Hensley, a senior at Trumbull Career and Technical Center as the top recipient in a class of 75 for the MOAA JROTC Medal. Cadet Hensley will be joining her brother in the Marine Corps upon graduation from TCTC.

LTC Hosler introduced recently commissioned officer, 2LT Jared L. Hideg, FA, who was presented with a signed certificate and set of Gold Bars from MOAA National. 2LT Hideg, who will start his Officer Basic Branch Training at Fort Sill in September, offered a few nuggets of wisdom and tribute. "My parents shaped me to be the man I've become. CPT Crawford shaped me into the Officer I've become." His leadership philosophy basically entails the motto, "You are not right until the person next to you is right." Upon closing Hideg profusely thanked all the officers present because he would not be here today were it not for all those here who paved the path before him. He married his wife, Kristen, last November.



Continue on page 2

President's Notes



We had a great May meeting with very good turnout. The meeting recognized several outstanding cadets from East High School Army Junior ROTC and the Trumbull Career & Technical Center, Air Force Junior ROTC, and YSU Army ROTC graduating cadet, Second Lieutenant Jared L. Hideg. Chapter Members Janet Oglesby and John Koshan received MOAA National Communications Awards for the newsletter and legislative page. Great job everyone.

Our membership continues to be strong with 91 members, 2 auxiliary members, and 10 spouse members; and I continue to urge all MSVC chapter members to become MOAA National members. MOAA National is our direct voice with those in power in the halls of government and our hard earned benefits as well as those currently serving could be in jeopardy. Visit our chapter web site at MSVC-MOAA.org and share our newsletter.

Most organizations go dormant during the summer, but MSVC-MOAA will continue to meet. I hope to see you all at our 25 June meeting at the Golden Corral in Hermitage, PA; again at the 23 July picnic in Salem, OH and back to the YARS on 27 August. Check our website for continued information as well as your e-mails for updated additional information.

I encourage all of our members to continue to check the Chapter and MOAA National websites as well as reviewing the e-mail they send out. MOAA National continues to keep its members informed on legislative matters and as always, needs your responses to ensure actions take place. An informed and active membership is a progressive membership. **LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.**

MOAA member Captain Stephanie Crawford (and her family), the APMS at YSU Army ROTC is being reassigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to attend Command and General Staff College. We look forward to working with her replacement. Also 2LT Jared Hideg will be attending Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma later this summer and he and his wife are moving to Texas. Good luck to both of them and we'll miss them all.

Lastly, I continue to say, any organization is only as good as its membership and their active participation, and the MSVC-MOAA is becoming one of the better chapters in Ohio and perhaps the country. We have much to be proud of, and I encourage all MSVC-MOAA members to continue to attend our dinner meetings, to meet other officers, renew old acquaintances and meet new members. It's up to US to keep our chapter active, vibrant and strong. Thanks for your continued support to MSVC-MOAA and MOAA National.

Rod Hosler, MSVC President

"It's important that people know what you stand for, and what you won't."

Cadet David A. Smith, who was not able to attend the evening's dinner, received a certificate and the MOAA ROTC Medal from National.

Please note that the guests' dinners were paid for by chapter members and a donation by USAA. Next dinner meeting will be on Thursday, 25 June at the Golden Corral in Hermitage, PA where a separate room has been reserved for us. Our membership continues to grow as well as our influence and contributions in the community. The ROTC/JROTC Recognition Dinner is an example of the successful programs our Chapter presents every month. Our achievements, awards, and cash rewards from MOAA National for newsletters, legislative initiatives, and recruiting has put our Chapter among the best in the country in its size category. Help us grow even more by spreading the word about our Chapter.

Add on to the second paragraph on this page. The chapter wants to thank the following individuals who purchased a meal for a cadet. The chapter balance sheet thank you.

Matt & Karen Chikosky
 Jim & Jeanne Fairbanks
 Andrew & Marlene Gall
 Rod & Florence Hosler
 John & Shirley Koshan
 Dennis & Shirley McMahon
 Bob & Kay Milich
 Ralph & Beth Minton
 Mary Lee McClure
 Carl & Clara Nunziato
 Tom Petzinger
 Jack & Sandra Russell
 Ed & Donna Stahura
 Chris & Edwina Whitehead
 Gary & Patricia Williams
 Rick & Kelly Williams
 Mike & Barbara Wisniewski

Cards and Prayers Appreciated

Ilona Mihai the wife of MAJ Pete Mihai was scheduled for back surgery on June 8th in Summit Akron Hospital. Her surgery was at the same time the newspaper had to be at the printer. The healing and rehab will take between 6–12 months. Ilona address is 2817 Julian St. Youngstown, OH 4450-2713

Articles in this newsletter are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletter's editor or publisher. Also, the individual opinions do not reflect an endorsement by the Mahoning Shenango Valleys Chapter or the national organization of the Military Officers Association of America, unless so indicated [Copyright 2011 Military Officers Association of American All rights reserved.] For the benefit of the members. Questions or comments should be directed to: LTC Roderick Hosler USA, Ret. E-mail: hosler1@zoominternet.net

Legislative Issues – June 2015

Legislative Affairs Co-Chair, COL John Koshan



Congress has been busy working to fulfill its budgeting responsibilities since our last published update. The House has passed its version of the **FY 2016 Defense Bill**, while in the Senate, the Armed Services Committee has completed marking up its version of the Defense Bill. The two Bills show major divides on issues that we will cover in this update. Both Bills have utilized the input from the Administration and from the Committee to Modernize Military Compensation and Retirement. In their versions of the Defense Bill each body **skirted** the issue of **Mandatory Spending or SEQUESTRATION** by channeling monies to an emergency war fighting fund (Contingency Operation Fund) that is exempt from the Spending Caps. This would allow the Defense Department to cover routine military expenses with this funding. This action essentially “kicks the can down the road” and doesn’t solve the **SEQUESTRATION** dilemma. This is a contentious issue and the White House has threatened a veto.

The House version of the Defense Bill more closely aligns with MOAA’s position of not shifting costs on to the backs of our service members. The House rejected the administration’s proposals for Military Pay Caps, increased TRICARE fees, and higher out of pocket costs for Basic Housing. The Bill also provides a provision preventing The Defense Department from changing the Commissary and Exchange systems. The House however, did include provisions to **overhaul** the **Military Retirement System**. The Bill calls for combining the existing defined benefit 20 year vested plan with a portable retirement plan. The proposed change sets up Thrift Savings Plans (TSP), or Individual retirement savings accounts, for service members which they would own and keep, and allows them to receive government matching contributions. Government matching contributions would be available for service members beyond 20 years of service. This system would provide a retirement benefit for those members who do not reach 20 years of service, and now under the current system receives nothing. This proposal cuts the existing retirement annuity by about 20%.

The Senate has taken a different track in their version. The Senate does include a Pay Cap of 1.3%, or 1% below private sector growth whereas the House version did not. This would be the third consecutive year of Pay Caps. Unlike the House, the Senate has included major changes to Basic Housing Allowance. Depending on living arrangements and marital status reductions could vary from 5–20%. The Senate decided not to wait for additional studies for the Commissary and Exchange system to be concluded before acting. The Senate included provisions for change. The Senate Bill includes reductions for subsidies and includes a provision to launch a

pilot program for **privatization**. As in the House version, the Senate too included a provision in their Bill to overhaul the Military Retirement System. They too, call for a Hybrid system like the House, but unlike the House the Senate version stops government matching funds at 20 years. Stopping the matching funds at 20 years does little to nothing to provide an incentive to retain a strong NCO and Officer Corps in the Career Force.

The Senate version also seeks TRICARE changes which the House version did not. Several aspects of the proposed TRICARE changes were supported by MOAA but the Senate did include provisions to increase **TRICARE Prescription** fees. This is something that MOAA has been working to forestall. Unfortunately the Senate feels that Military families and retirees should do more. (Congress seems to know about sacrifice). Under the senate proposal, retail and mail order co-pays would double and triple over the next decade.

Like most legislation, differences exist between both chambers that will have to be reconciled. A tweak here or there or a major overhaul will be required. Both Bills will undergo modification in conference process between both the House and the Senate. What comes out of conference will then be voted on by both Chambers and the resulting Bill will be sent to the White House for approval.

The following is a brief comparison of Key items in the Defense Bills and MOAA’s position relative to each issue:

- Retirement:** Senate – Hybrid System, Gov’t contributions to TSP stops at 20 years
House – Same as Senate, Gov’t contributions to TSP to continue past 20 years
MOAA – Favor House version but need added study and Pentagon input
- Pay Raise:** Senate – Cap 2015 at 1.3%
House – Mirror Private Sector at 2.3%
MOAA – Favor House version
- TRICARE:** Senate – Increase retail and mail order pharmacy co-pays
House – No Changes
MOAA – Favor House version
- Commissary:** Senate – Cut funding and test privatization
House – No Changes
MOAA – Favor House version
- Housing:** Senate – Cut Allowances
House – No Change
MOAA – Favor House version

In other action on the Defense Bill, the House removed a provision that would have encouraged the Secretary of Defense to waive military enlistment requirements for illegal immigrants. It seems ironic that we would want to enlist illegals while we are eliminating American troops through the force draw down. The senate did not include a provision on immigration.

Continue on page 4

Several important veteran's bills have been introduced in this the 114th Congress, they are:

- Senate 1085: Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Improvement Act. This bill allows veterans of all eras eligible for the full range of caregiver support services through the VA.
- House 1141 and Senate 602: This bill allows members of the National Guard and Reserves to count time spent receiving care in a DoD facility for a line of duty illness or injury sustained during a call up to count as active duty for eligibility for GI Bill Benefits.
- Senate 1203: Veterans Benefits Delivery Act. This bill helps simplify and expedite the VA claims.

A more detailed explanation of these legislative actions are available at MOAA's web site. http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Take_Action.html MOAA has also provided suggested messages in support of these actions, and is encouraging us to send our legislators a message in support of these actions.

The Department of Defense's goal for FY2016 is to "slow the growth" through cutting military people programs. As shown above this activity is well on its way to being enacted. Where the final version ends up is anyone's guess, but what can be concluded is that **Military Retirement** will be changed. Change is the only constant in this process, but it seems fool hardy to affect the area most needed to have an effective force, trained and motivated soldiers. Cutting people programs is short sighted and is a detriment to recruiting and retention and will result in a less effective fighting force. MOAA continues to lobby for those programs that make sense and strengthen the military. Our voice is a part of this effort and we are encouraged to get involved. Contacting our representative either through MOAA's web site or individually can help in achieving a strong National Defense and keeping commitments to our veterans.

Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

Legislative Contacts

MOAA Weekly legislative updates www.moaa.org or **1-800-234-6622 ext. 215**

Pres. Barack Obama (D)

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington DC 20500
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
www.whitehouse.gov

OHIO

Senator Sherrod Brown (D)

United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2315
Fax (202) 228-6321
www.brown.senate.gov

Senator Rob Portman (R)

United States Senate
448 Russell Senate Office Bld.
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3353
www.portman.senate.gov

Representative District 6

Bill Johnson (R)

192 East State St.
Salem, OH 44460
Phone (330) 337-6951
Fax (330) 337-7125
<http://billjohnson.house.gov>

Representative District 13

Tim Ryan (D)

241 West Federal St.
Youngstown, OH 44503
Phone: (330) 740-0193
Fax: (330) 740-0182
<http://timryan.house.gov>

PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Robert Casey Jr. (D)

393 Russell Senate Office Bld.
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-6324
Fax: (202) 228-0604
www.casey.senate.gov

Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

248 Russell Senate Office Bld.
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4254
Fax: (202) 228-0284
www.toomey.senate.gov

Representative District 3

Mike Kelly (R)

33 Chestnut Avenue
Sharon, PA 16146
Phone: (724) 342-7170
Fax: (724) 342-7242
<http://kelly.house.gov/>

MSVC Officers and Committee Chairs

President..... LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.
HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270

1st Vice President LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret.
GWilliams15@comcast.net (330) 385-4873

2nd Vice President .An individual that can sell the chapter and MOAA. No computer skills required.

Secretary Janet Oglesby, Aux.
JLO52800@neo.rr.com (330) 568-4456

Treasurer Former LT Bruce Bille, USN
[TREASURER@MSVC-MOAA.ORG](mailto:treasurer@msvc-moaa.org) (330) 856-7958

Board Member ex officio MAJ Peter Mihai, USA, Ret.
PMIHAI1@neo.rr.com (330) 704-5541

Board Member at Large

Former LT Florence Hosler, USN
HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET . (330) 788-3270

Chapter Programs Officer Gary Williams
GWilliams15@comcast.net (330) 385-4873

Chaplain Lt Col Ralph Minton, USAF, Ret.
[MINTONREBA1@VERIZON.NET](mailto:MINTONREBA1@verizon.net) (724) 674-6642

Chapter Develop Chair, OH Council of Chapters

Col. Dick Calta, USAF, Ret.
[TRAILERDC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TRAILERDC@gmail.com) (330) 576-6404

Historian Officer LTC Donald Rasile, USA, Ret.
RASILED@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 758-3348

Legislative Affairs COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.
CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM (330) 883-0192

Membership Data Input Janet Oglesby
JLO52800@neo.rr.com (330) 568-4456

Nominations & Elections...

... LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.
[MIKEWAPPRAISER@AOL.COM](mailto:MIKEWAPPRAISER@aol.com) (330) 856-1162

Personal Affairs

Cards to Shut-ins Don & Bonnie Rasile
RASILED@ZOOMINTERNET.NET 758-3348

Public Relations LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.
[MIKEWAPPRAISER@AOL.COM](mailto:MIKEWAPPRAISER@aol.com) (330) 856-1162

USO Area Representative Bruce Bille
[USOTRUMBULLCO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:USOTRUMBULLCO@gmail.com) (330) 333-0397 cell

YARS MOAA Liaison Maj Scott Allen, USAFR
[SCOTT.ALLEN5@US.AF.MIL](mailto:SCOTT.ALLEN5@us.af.mil) (330) 847-4033

If we want to win our fourth consecutive recruiting challenge—we need to pick-up the pace up

Chapter Recruitment 2015, Members recruited as of 6/5/2015

<u>Chapter Category</u>	<u>Chapter Code</u>	<u>Chapter Name</u>	<u>Chapter Members Added</u>	<u>Receiving Incentives for</u>
Category - 03 (75 to 99)	AR01	Central Arkansas Chapter of MOAA	3	3
	AR08	Bella Vista Arkansas Chapter	1	1
	AZ03	Green Valley Chapter, MOAA	4	3
	AZ11	Grand Canyon Chapter	8	8
	CA07	Alameda County Chapter, MOAA	4	4
	DE01	Dover Chapter	1	1
	FL32	MOAA, Citrus County Chapter, Inc.	1	1
	GA17	South Georgia Chapter	3	3
	GA18	Georgia Mountain Chapter	2	1
	KS08	Sunflower Chapter - MOAA	4	4
	NC04	Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter	4	4
	OH10	Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter	3	2
	RI02	Southeastern New England Chapter	1	1
	SC09	Piedmont Chapter	3	3
	SC12	The Star Fort Chapter	2	1
	TN02	East Tennessee Chapter	6	6
	TX01	Abilene Area Chapter	1	1
	TX33	Greater Granbury Chapter	8	5
	VA15	Shenandoah Valley Chapter	1	1

To Join MOAA National: use the web site www.moaa.org/join or call 800-234-6622

Membership Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____

Component _____ Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Active *(Regular)—☐ Reserve*—☐ National Guard*

*Free chapter membership if under government contract.
A non military email address is preferred, return this form

☐ Regular Member (Retired, Former, Active* Officer of the seven uniformed US Services **Membership \$20/year**)

☐ Widow(er)—Auxiliary Member (Auxiliary membership is available for surviving spouses of officers **Membership \$10/year**)

☐ Spouse (local MOAA chapter only, not national, spouse is member of chapter) **Membership \$20/year**)

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone _____

E-mail: _____ Applicant DOB _____ Spouse DOB _____

☐ Newsletters will be emailed, if you prefer postal service, check this box

Member of MOAA National ☐ Yes ☐ No # _____

Chapter dues from Jan. 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2015—\$10 now for new members.

Make Check Payable to: **MSVC-MOAA** mail to address on right

You may pay regular and auxiliary dues (not spouses) with a credit card at: www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment
you may use credit card and PayPal and paid, regular, spouses and auxiliary dues at msvc-moaa.org/membership

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
Attn: MSVC-MOAA
Janet Oglesby Secretary
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540
Vienna, OH 44473-5980



Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
 Mahoning & Shenango Valleys Chapter
 3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540
 Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Return Service Requested

Place
 Stamp
 Here



MSVC-MOAA Thursday, June 25th Membership Meeting at Golden Corral in Hermitage

Where: Golden Corral

1025 North Hermitage Road (Rt. 18 N)
 Hermitage, PA 16148
 Just before Walmart

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests

Dinner: 1830 (6:30 P.M.) Upon arrival you may go ahead to the buffet

Program: 1930 (7:30 P.M.) Welcome to join the dinner guests for the program. Just inform the cashier you wish to attend the meeting.

Suggested Attire: Summer Casual

Program: Red Cross Comfort Dogs.

There will be dogs present.

Menu: All you can eat buffet \$11.99 plus drink and tax.

Seniors 60+ \$10.89 plus drink and tax

RSVP: Not necessary but if you get a chance, email or call Janet Oglesby djo52800@neo.rr.com or 330-568-4456 she can inform Golden Corral to have the proper number of servers for us and your name tag will be waiting for you.

Date	Location and Program
6/20	Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team 1 st Game Starts at 5:00 p.m. Double header Fires-tone Stadium, Akron Tickets \$10
6/25	MSVC Meeting Golden Corral, Hermitage, Pro-gram Comfort Dogs for Deployed Troops
7/23	MSVC Picnic at Centennial Park in Salem, Pro-gram 6:30 TBA NEED A CHARCOAL HAMBURGER COOK
TBA	Scrappers Game

Date	Location and Program
8/9	Wings-n-Wheels Show Ernie Hall Aviation Mu-seum SLOAS Airfield 4033 North River Road Warren, 44484 www.erniehallaviationmuseum.org
8/21-22	D-Day Conneaut, Ohio www.dddayohio.us
8/27	MSVC at YARS–Steak Fry/Corn Roast, Program TBA
9/24	MSVC at YARS–Program TBA